

Dam Repair Wetland Discharge General Permit Application Checklist

Determine eligibility for this general permit:

- Review the project site for water resources with the Storm Water, Waterway, and Wetland Permit Viewer, <https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?viewer=SW4P>
- Review the eligibility criteria below. If the project does not meet all eligibility criteria, it does not qualify for this General Permit. Consider adjusting the project or applying for an Individual Permit instead.

To apply:

- Apply online at <http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/permits/water>.
- Include all required attachments. Each document must be less than 15 megabytes (MB), and the overall application must be less than 200 MB or it cannot be processed. The online system offers a help guide to reduce file sizes.
- Permit review times begin when all the required application materials are received by the Department. The Department may require additional information to evaluate the project.
- If you have questions regarding your application, use the “Ask for Help” support tool in ePermitting.
- Your signed submittal of this application checklist constitutes a request that the Department review and act for CWA 401 certification.

Prior to starting any work at the project site, you are responsible for all necessary:

- Local or county permits, such as shoreland zoning, floodplain zoning, etc.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permits or approvals.
- Any other applicable federal permits or approvals.
- Tribal permits or approvals.
- Any other applicable state of Wisconsin permits or approvals.

Required application materials:

- 1. Application form-** A complete, signed application form “Water Resources Application for Project Permits (WRAPP)” (Form 3500-053). The WRAPP is part of the ePermitting process and will be completed automatically with an online application.

- 2. Application Checklist-** A signed permit application checklist certifying that the applicant agrees to meet the eligibility criteria and permit conditions established in WDNR-GP10-2026.
- 3. Application fee-** Payment must be submitted through the ePermitting System as part of the application process. The fee for a wetland discharge general permit is \$600. Don't forget to sign and submit the application after you complete the payment.
- 4. Ownership documentation-** A copy of the deed, land contract, current property tax statement or receipt sufficient to verify ownership or legal authorization to proceed.
- 5. Photographs-** that clearly show the present on-the-ground conditions of the project areas. Color images are preferred and remember that snow cover or vegetation may obscure important details. If possible, have another person stand near the project area for size reference.
- 6. Site maps-** Clearly illustrate the project location, perimeter, and surrounding area, including nearby water resources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands), major landmarks and roads. Use the [DNR Storm Water, Waterway, and Wetland Permit Viewer](#) or a similar app to show the project area, all proposed wetland impacts, and all waterway and wetland resources on one or more maps, including:
 - Recent aerial photos of the site and surrounding area (Imagery)
 - Topographic map including the site and surrounding area (Topo and LiDAR-based elevation and contours)
 - Wetland indicators and soils (wetland indicators)
 - Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (WWI) map (WI wetland inventory)
 - Waterways on the site (surface water)
 - Designated waterways, such as ASNRI, PRF, other PNW (designated waterways)
 - Regulated floodplain (dams and floodplains, FEMA NFHIL)
- 7. Plans and specifications-** Clearly and accurately show the proposed project to scale. Plans must be detailed and represent a single and complete project. Please refer to examples when developing your plans and specifications.
 - Location of any waterways and wetlands and a description of the waterway or wetland type
 - Location, dimensions and area of temporary and permanent impacts
 - Top, Side, and Cross-section view(s) including dimensions for each impact area
- 8. A site-specific vegetative plan** must be included for projects that require significant grading or for projects where the remaining wetland complex is dominated by native or non-invasive

vegetation. Plans should include:

- Vegetation native to Wisconsin established as soon as possible
- Monitoring and inspections regularly for one year after completing the project.
- Additional stabilization or re-vegetation as required to ensure stabilization.

9. Narrative description- Describe your proposal on a separate page. Please include:

- What the project is, purpose of project, and need for the project.
- How you intend to carry out the project, including methods, materials, and equipment.
- The proposed construction schedule and sequence of work.
- What temporary and permanent erosion control measures will be used.
- The location of any disposal area for dredged or excavated materials.
- For disturbances or fill, provide a description of type, composition, and quality of materials.
- How you plan to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to wetlands.
- Wetland area (e.g., linear feet, cubic yards) impacted.

10. Wetland Delineation Report documentation such as

- A valid Wetland Delineation Report conducted by an Assured Delineator recognized by the Department (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wetlands/assurance.html>), or
- Concurrence from the WI DNR Wetland ID program (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wetlands/identification.html>), or
- Documentation from the Department's Water Management Specialist (WMS) reviewing this application that a delineation is not necessary for the given site or area of impact.

11. Practicable Alternatives Analysis- Provide clear, detailed documentation of how the wetland impact cannot be avoided and was minimized to the maximum extent practicable.

Include:

a) Project purpose and need:

- Explain the background of the project
- If the project is an expansion of existing work or new construction
- Why the project must occur, and why it must impact wetlands

b) Alternatives:

- Describe any other locations considered or available to avoid wetland impacts (for example, could the facility be built in upland areas)
- Describe how the design elements minimize wetland impacts. Discuss

considerations such as a smaller size or different layout, narrower width of the road, reduced the side slopes, removing or reducing design elements such as decks or sidewalks)

- For each of the alternatives identified:
 - Explain and provide documentation for why you eliminated the alternative from consideration (e.g. cost, safety issues, logistical, technological, design choice – such as wetland or soil type, hydrology or topography, weight bearing needs, etc.)
 - Explain what you plan to do to minimize adverse effects on the wetlands during your project (e.g. erosion control, minimized vegetation clearing for construction, avoid more sensitive wetland types, timing of construction, other best management practices, etc.)
 - Additional guidance to help develop your alternatives analysis can be accessed at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterways/documents/PAA/PAAwetlands.pdf>

Additional considerations:

- **If Endangered or Threatened Resources are present** an Endangered Resources Review may be required during the application review. This review is not required to be submitted with the application, but results may impact the permit outcome. Visit <http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/ERReview/PublicPortal.html> to learn more.
- **If historical or cultural resources are present** the Department may require documentation that the project will comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and s. 44.40, Wis. Stats. Information on the location and existence of historic resources can be obtained from the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Register of Historic Places.

Application Checklist- Eligibility Criteria

Projects that do not meet all the following criteria are not eligible for this general permit. If your project does not qualify for this permit, you may consider applying for an individual permit.

A. Pre-screening Criteria:

1. Permit applicant is the dam owner and underlying landowner or has legal authorization from the dam owner and landowner to undertake the project described in the application.
2. The project purpose is to improve the safety of the dam by performing maintenance, repair or reconstruction activities associated with a single and complete project approved by a DNR Water Management Engineer.
3. The project purpose is not to place hydro-generation facilities or recreational structures.
4. Discharge will not occur in the following resources: Great Lakes ridge and swale complexes, interdunal wetlands, coastal plain marshes, emergent marshes containing wild rice, sphagnum bogs that are located in the area located south of a horizontal line drawn across the state based on the routes of STH 16 and STH 21 west of Lake Winnebago and on USH 151 east of Lake Winnebago, boreal rich fens, or calcareous fens.
5. The project will not occur in a mapped floodplain (official Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or local zoning map), or the applicant has certified that they are working to or have obtained applicable floodplain permits or approvals from the local zoning authority.
6. The original construction of the dam was authorized by law.

B. Standard Criteria:

7. The discharge will cause only minimal adverse environmental effects.
8. No activity is authorized which is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act and/or State law or which is likely to destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of a species as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act.
9. The activity will not result in adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources and will comply with s. 44.40, Wis. Stats., as determined by the Department.

10. The project will not occur in locations with existing recorded deed restrictions, including easements limiting construction and land use activities.
 - Note: Department chs. 30 and 281, Wis. Stats., permits do not supersede any legal restrictions on the use of land.
11. This project will not flood or impede drainage of the adjacent properties or upstream properties unless appropriate signed agreements have been made with affected landowners.
12. The project is not eligible for authorization under a “Superior SAMP” permit reviewed by the City of Superior, Wisconsin.
13. The project does not have the potential to negatively impact a cold-water community as defined in s. NR 102.04(3)(a), Wis. Adm. Code, and the project is not proposed in an area with evidence of spring activity.
14. The activity shall not result in significant adverse impacts to fishery spawning habitat, including obstruction of fish passage, or adversely affect bird breeding areas or substantially disrupts the movement of species that normally migrate from open water to upland or vice versa (i.e., amphibians, reptiles, and mammals) as determined by the Department.
15. The project may not cause negative impacts to wetland water quality standards, as defined in s. NR 103.03 including the flow of groundwater through a wetland and water level elevations within wetlands.
16. The proposed activities will not cause adverse impacts to undisturbed wetland plant communities on-site or adjacent to the project area.
17. The project will not adversely impact an Area of Special Natural Resource Interest (ASNRI) or Public Rights Feature (PRF) identified pursuant to ss. NR 1.05 and 1.06(5), Wis. Adm. Code.
18. The project may not result in significant adverse impacts to the public rights and interests, or cause environmental pollution as defined in s. 299.01(4), Wis. Stats., or result in material injury to the riparian rights of any riparian owner pursuant to s. 30.206(3r)(a)2., Wis. Stats.

C. Additional Criteria for Wetland Dam Repair and Maintenance Projects

19. The proposed project cannot avoid wetland impacts.
20. The proposed project minimizes wetland impacts to the greatest extent practicable.
21. The project does not result in the temporary placing or discharging fill material onto more than 2 acres of wetland as part of a single and complete project.
22. The project discharge will not result in more than 10,000 square feet (0.23 acre) of permanent fill of wetlands as part of a single and complete project, and the project has not been segmented for the purpose of meeting eligibility requirements for this general permit.
23. The project will be constructed in a manner that will maintain wetland hydrology in the remaining wetlands.
24. This permit does not authorize impacts to navigable waterways waterward of the Ordinary High-Water Mark. This does not preclude eligibility of waterway exemptions or eligibility of other general or individual permits.
25. The purpose of the project is not to fill wetlands to create a buildable lot to be sold and/or developed later.
26. The project will not result in the conversion of a wetland to a storm water treatment facility such as but not limited to a pond or infiltration basin.
27. Temporary or permanent wetland impacts will not take place in or directly or indirectly result in the conversion of sedge meadows, forested wetlands, or rare wetland community types, such as calcareous fens and those listed in s. 281.36(3g)(d), Wis. Stats., into other wetland types or non-wetlands.

D. Certifications

- By checking this box, I certify that the proposed project will not occur in a mapped floodplain (official Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or local zoning map), or if the project is in a regulated floodplain, I am obtaining or have obtained applicable floodplain permits or approvals from the local zoning authority.

I certify that I have read and understand all project eligibility criteria and agree to design and construct my project in accordance with all listed eligibility criteria found in this checklist. In addition, I agree to meet all conditions required for structure placement as identified in the above referenced eligibility criteria.

This form may be signed electronically, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Chapter 137. By checking the electronic signature acknowledgement box and typing your name, you are expressing intent to sign this form and certifying that all information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete, to the best of your knowledge and belief. If you decline to sign this form electronically, you must physically sign this form and all other forms required for your project.

Date signed

Signature
